GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:242
ANSWERED ON:23.11.2006
FIRE AT SALAR JUNG MUSEUM .
Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether a major fire broke out at Salar Jung Museum at Hyderabad recently;

(b) If so, the details thereof and total loss suffered by the museum due to fire;

(c) The number of priceless antiques destroyed in this fire;

(d) Whether the Government has inquired into the reasons of fire;

(e) If so, the details thereof; and

(f) The steps taken or being taken to prevent recurrence of such incidents in future ?

Answer

MINISTER FOR TOURISM & CULTURE (SMT. AMBIKA SONI)

(a) to (c) : Yes, Sir. There was a fire accident in the Auditorium in the Western Block of the Salar Jung Museum, Hyderabad on 3rd November, 2006, which was noticed by CISF security personnel at around 6.45 a.m. The fire was brought under control by the fire brigade and the CISF personnel by 8.00 a.m. Due to heat generated inside, part of the furniture, fixtures, fittings and false ceiling in the auditorium have been damaged. The approximate cost of the damage is estimated to be Rs.15.00 lakhs. No priceless antiques/ artifacts have been damaged in the fire which was confined to the auditorium.

(d) to (f): Yes, Sir. H.E. the Governor of Andhra Pradesh and Chairman of SJM Board has constituted a Committee consisting of Board Members and a nominee of Director General Fire Services, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh, to inquire into the cause of fire and suggest remedial measures.